



FIRST NATIONS
FISHERIES COUNCIL

**Co-Management Activities and Mechanisms
November 3, 2010**

Outline

- Introduction to Topic
- What do we mean by 'Mechanisms'?
- Examples of Co-Management Mechanisms
- What do we mean by 'Activities'?
- Examples of Co-Management Activities
- Question for discussion

Introduction

- Co-Management partnerships between the Crown and First Nation can be structured in many ways, including
 - Through a formalized relationship
 - Based on a specific task

3

What do we mean by ‘Mechanisms’?

- Ways to structure the relationship between the Crown and First Nations
 - Can be formalized, informal, issue based, short term, long term, etc.
 - Examples: MoUs, the *Commitment to Action*, the *Haida Gwaii Reconciliation Act*, etc.

4

Examples of Co-Mgm't Mechanisms

1. Agreements

- Written agreements between First Nation (s) and DFO

Considerations:

- Is the agreement binding?
- Is a statutory basis which supports or implements an agreement?
- Are there dispute resolution mechanisms built into the agreement?
- Is there a non-derogation clause re: aboriginal rights and resulting priority access?
- Does the agreement provide for secure and adequate funding to support co-management?

5

Examples of Co-Mgm't Mechanisms

2. Co-Mgmt Bodies or Boards

- A group comprised of both First Nation and DFO representatives that involves some aspect of decision-making

Considerations:

- Who are the participants on the Board and how are they chosen?
- What is the internal decision-making process of the Board
- What is the mandate of the Board?
- On what issues can the Board make decisions?
- What is the impact of decisions of the Board? Are they advisory or are stronger mechanisms in place?

6

Examples of Co-Mgm't Mechanisms

3. Legislation and/or Regulation

- A statute or law which governs a relationship

Considerations:

- Is and how is decision-making delegated?
- How could legislative reform better support co-management?

Example: Haida Gwaii Reconciliation Act

7

What do we mean by 'Activities'?

- Co-Management can be framed through discussions and arrangements on the types of activities associated with the fisheries and aquatic resource management.

This can Include:

- Stock Assessment
- Allocation, Access and Management
- Science and Research
- Habitat Protection and Management
- Authorization/Management of Allowable activities
- Oceans and Marine Planning
- Monitoring and Compliance
- Policy and Communications
- Consultations with Resource Users

8

Co-Mgmt by Activity

Considerations:

- What types of capacity are necessary to effectively participate?
 - Human, financial, infrastructure, etc
 - See FNFC resource entitled “*Capacity for Co-Management of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources: A Discussion Document*” (2010)
- What are priority activities?
- How is information incorporated into decision making?

9

Guiding Questions

- 1) *What are the priority activities around which we should be enhancing our co-management relationships*
- 2) *What co-management mechanisms best reflect the fisheries co-management aspirations of First Nations communities in B.C.?*

10